

Comments on webinar 1/8/2019 California Water Plan update 2018

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To: DWR CWP Comments <cwpcom@water.ca.gov>;

To Mr. Francisco Guzman,

I attended on-line the Webinar yesterday discussing the California Water Plan Update 2018. My comments are given to you ,as a hydrologist and civil engineer, and as a former government employee. I was involved in the Oklahoma Comprehensive Water Plan(1980) and the Arizona State Water Plan(1983) and the Arizona Drought Plan (1997).

After listening to your speakers and reading fully the California Water Plan 2018, I find the Plan to ' need stronger trustworthiness. It must stand by itself as a document to the Legislature and each Citizen of California as credible, believable.

To make it credible, First in importance, the Plan needs a Glossary, placed at the front of the Plan. A Glossary of scientific terms: hydrology -wise, engineering-wise, biology-wise, watershed-wise, fire suppression-wise is essential. The Citizens of California , the Legislature and Governor, all deserve clear, understandable terminology and language.

In politics that is referred to as Speaking American. The book Speaking American by David Kusnet published in 1992, uses the phrase to show that politics is a mechanism for improving people's lives. That is Goal #1 of any state water plan, now and in the future. The Citizens = the Public want and expect the California Department of Water Resources to protect their health and safety.

Help the Public in California understand clearly, in simple terms and language what you, the California Department of Water Resources need to do, to get the job done: Securing dependable , safe water supplies now- today and in the future. Whether that is the next 20 years, 40 years or 50 years you give them a phased approach to accomplish that enormous task.

The Water Plan 2018 can't hide behind the philosophy , we all heard yesterday, that specifics can not be included because of a "new administration". That is not good ,it is unacceptable . All water planning and good water management has long-term objectives. Politics will change ,Governors will come for a few years and not be re-elected , that is a given and happens in every State in America.

A comprehensive water plan is like the Bible , it shows a direction ,a path to the future. That is an essential flaw in the California Water Plan Update 2018. The Plan uses the concept of Sustainability from the start, in the Executive Summary , as your main Goal. That is a vague term ,a trendy term , a political term of activists, University professors, people with no practical experience or expertise in water resources.

As water resources experts know Sustainability can be anything you want it to mean , like Parenthood. It is a term Planners love, but it is not acceptable or practical in the real world. In a All- Perfect world, the Public, the Citizens of California would like to believe they will have unlimited quantities of good quality , easily accessible water. That is not reality on this Planet Earth.

Each State in the western United States has been forced to accept there will be limited Surface water and Groundwater resources in the Future. That is a Fact. Regional water planning , as I have been involved with for 4 decades, is States arguing over , and trying for a compromise on sharing the available water resources in a Region. Within a State ,like California , the groundwater resources are a valuable asset. The surface water resources within California are a valuable asset.

Highlight these assets for what they truly represent -Money.

Include , at the front of the California Water Plan 2018, a visual map of the Major Groundwater basins in California. Have the U.S. Geological Survey-California Regional office help you make such a map if the Department of Water Resources hydrologists have not done this already.

Every State Water Plan shows such a map and Legislators love such a map.

Citizens of every State , teachers, real estate salespeople , cities love such water a map.

Do a similar map , colorful and beautiful, of California Surface Water resources.

Both maps should be clear, simple and easily understandable with a Legend explaining hydrologic terms like "aquifer", Groundwater basin, watershed ,etc.

Attach copies of each map in the Executive Summary to Legislators , for their individual copy of the California Water Plan 2018. In regard to citizens and the general public you can charge a nominal fee for the maps as attachments to their copy of the California Water Plan 2018.

I believe the maps should be Free to all Citizens of California .

"Citizens" I describe as the hardworking, voters, who have resided in California for at least 5 years , the Men and Women who show up every day at a job to collect a paycheck so they can eventually buy a house and send their kids to college in California , to become educated , knowledgeable citizens of California in the next 50 years. The emphasis and focus on "disadvantaged " people in the California Water Plan 2018 is vague and hints at a political agenda . It should be eliminated . All Citizens should be treated equally and considered honorably in writing a State Water Plan.

All the folks in California , whatever their economic status, are your audience or Market.

The California Department of Water Resources must

SELL this Water Plan 2018 to the folks , the Public , for the Plan to be implemented and become a credible Reality.

I hope you will take and consider my comments as someone who has been an Editor of the Journal of Groundwater, a State hydrologist in Oklahoma and Senior Hydrologist for the Arizona Department of Water Resources and Salt River Project in Phoenix,Arizona the past 35 years.

I want to see the State of California Department of Water Resources shine and be credible in their Water Plan 2018.

A Plan credible in scientific facts , politically savvy and well organized so the data and conclusions are universally accepted and the words/language is easily understandable and flow naturally to the reader.

From,

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